

Small Business Advocate of the Year (NFDO)

This award will be presented to an individual or organization that assists entrepreneurs through advocacy and other efforts that raise the profile, effectiveness, health, vitality, growth, or expansion of small businesses in the SBA's North Florida District Office territory. These efforts can target specific segments of the small business population such as women, veterans, minorities, exporters, and those small firms located in rural communities.

What are the evaluation/selection criteria for the Small Business Advocate of the Year award?

The selection will be based on:

1. Demonstrated accomplishments over the last three years to supporting the growth and expansion of small businesses (as measured by job creation or retention, service to underserved markets, number of loans to small businesses, number of businesses started or expanded, number of clients served, access to business opportunities, etc.)
2. Advocacy of the small business community as a whole and not solely for individual personal advancement
3. Efforts to increase business opportunities for small companies.
4. Innovation in advocacy strategies with measurable benefits to small businesses in North Florida
5. Longevity and success of sustained commitment to small businesses and entrepreneurship.
6. Encourage the flow of investment capital to small firms.
7. Measurable accomplishments in the quality and growth in the number of small business clients assisted through financial or technical assistance provided.